

TV CRITICS STILL MAD FOR 'MAD MEN' TELEVISION (page 15)

PRINCE

DETHRONED AFTER BROKEN FOOT AMUKAMARA OUT UP TO TWO MONTHS

Giants rookie: 'I let team down' (page 23)

Jets lose Ellis to Patriots in surprise signing (page 23)



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Monday, August 8, 2011 www.metro.us



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EMPLY ASSOCRATION/ HIGGIN their pound of flesh

● 100 people bitten by rats, mice every year in the city ● Infiltrate subways and homes D But Queens woman says her 13 pet rats love to cuddle, not chomp {page 02}

Another downgrade coming?

S&P exec says there's a 1-in-3 chance credit could take another hit in next two years

Hard to recover (page 08)

Sarandon still pingponging

The movie star on why she is so in love with table tennis (page 13)



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In the news

Man dies

triathlon

during NYC

A 64-year-old man died and a 40-yearold woman remains in critical condition after the two participated in the Nautica New York City Triathlon yesterday. The man died during the swimming portion of the race, when participants swim 1.5 kilometers in the Hudson River, then bike and run. METRO/CB

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Georgina's alleged stalker arrested

QUEENS. A pizzeria worker who lives in Ridgewood, Queens, was arrested for allegedly cyberstalking Mayor Michael Bloomberg's daughter, Georgina, according to reports.

Salvatore Di Bartolo, 48, sent e-mails, text messages

and even a Facebook post declaring his love for 28year-old Georgina.

"Happy passover mike. How is Giorgina doing?" he posted on the mayor's Facebook wall.

Di Bartolo had been warned to stay away from Georgina, according to the Daily News, but "he did not care" because they "were going to be married."

METRO/CB



Five years in jail for crime he didn't commit

QUEENS. A Queens man was released from jail this summer after spending five years behind bars on murder charges he was later cleared of. Ryan Dufort was just 15 and a sophomore at Bayside High School when he was

accused of killing someone in a fight that occurred inside a karaoke club. He maintained his innocence the entire time, telling cops he left the club while the fight was still going on, but was found guilty anyway. His case appears to have been mishandled by law enforcement, according to a Daily News report.

METRO/CB

100 NYCers bitten by rats each year

• Health Dept. reports rats and mice bite people in all five boroughs • The wounds can cause diseases ranging from tetanus to rat bite fever

Metro exclusive

See that piece of slimy trash the subway rat is chewing? You could be next.

Rodents bite about 100 New Yorkers each year, according to city Health Department statistics.

In 2010, rats chewed on 86 New Yorkers, and so far this year, 29 people reported getting their skin pierced by a rodent's sharp teeth.

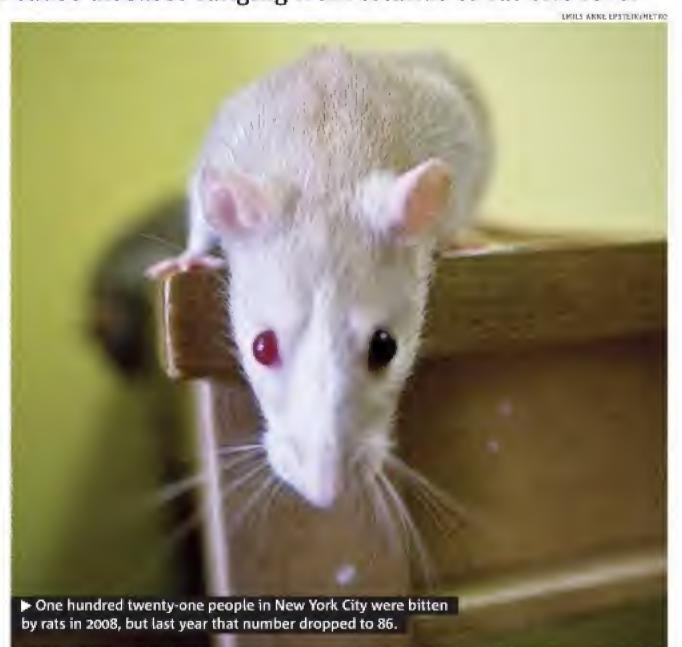
The Health Department records bites from people reporting it on their website, and from emergency room doctors. But many more bite horror stories may go unreported.

Some of the bites come from mice, the Health Department noted. In 2010, 34 of the total bites came from mice, often snapping at people while caught in traps.

But rats have been known to sink their teeth into straphangers riding the subway — or even gnaw on New Yorkers in their

Jimmy Tallman of Magic Exterminating said he was called to a Bronx apartment where rats attacked a child.

"They were getting into a crib and they bit on a baby's toes," he said. Rats sometimes climb right into a baby's crib and suck milk out of bottles, he said.



"You put a rat in a situation where it has to bite you, if it's starving or it's really hungry, you'll get those bites."

MICHAEL MORALES, EXTERMINATOR

In 2005, a 3-year-old girl in the Bronx was chomped on the back when a rat crawled through a shower tile, according to reports.

Another time, in Long Island, a rat nosed into a parrot's cage and ate the bird, Tallman said.

"They're just attracted to the food, and gnaw on a human by accident, for the most part," said his exterminator partner Michael

Morales.

If you are bitten by a rat or a mouse, the Health Department recommends immediate medical attention. Bacteria from a rat's teeth can cause anything from tetanus to rat bite fever, which can be fatal.



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She loves her 13 rodents

One woman says rats get a bad rap. Queens resident Tara Delahoz, 29, says the 13 rats she raises and breeds in her home would never bite. "They're very docile creatures," she says. Rats are "social by nature," she says, and she ensures they do not get biting habits by nurturing them from birth. She began collecting pet rats at 14. "I saw somebody with a pet rat. The rat looked so docile and so content to sit on the owner's shoulder." O METRO/AB

Rat bite health risks

Rat bite fever is rare, but can be caught from infected rodents. It causes fever and a rash about three days after a bite, and can be fatal in extreme cases. Leptospirosis, a bacteria infection from rodents that causes fever and vomiting, is reported about one to three times each year in the city, according to the Health Department. Plague has not been reported from a New York rat, but two cases were recorded last year by a couple visiting from New Mexico.

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Some want plaza art installations nipped in the bud

A titillating installation by the Department of Transportation in the Meatpacking District has some people all hot and bothered.

Since 2008, six Ninth Avenue pedestrian plazas installed by the DOT have been bordered with concrete art installations, some of which have the distinct spherical shape of a woman's bosom.

"They're the breasts. They just sit out there and do nothing," said Matt De-Matt, owner of the Gaslight Lounge on Ninth Avenue, to the New York Post.

DeMatt, along with the Meatpacking District Im"I think it's a bit of a stretch to say that they look like boobs. They're not beautiful, but they make for interesting seating."
TREVOR BALLIN, 37, WEST VILLAGE RESIDENT

provement Association, is championing a \$500,000 redesign of the buxomlooking plaza this fall.

Some locals don't mind the busty sculptures and were shocked by what they called the prudishness of business owners. "The Standard hotel is notorious for naked people," said Greenpoint resident Tila Johnson, 27, who works in retail nearby. "I don't think they're offensive."

"They're a little breastesque, that's for sure," admitted Cory Miller, 29, a manager at a burger joint on Ninth Ave.

While he wasn't convinced that the concrete globes were too revealing, he did admit that, on the whole, the plazas could certainly use "a lift."



Thieves target LES

LOWER EAST SIDE. Police are looking for two robbers who are targeting latenight revelers and others on the Lower East Side. The duo has committed four robberies so far, police say, most recently on Wednesday when they allegedly threatened a 64-year-old man with a handgun and stole his wallet just before 11 p.m. at 250

Clinton St. Before that, they robbed a couple at the corner of Rivington and Ridge streets at 2:30 a.m., police said, again brandishing a gun and stealing the couple's money, cell phones and credit cards. They are also accused of stealing an MP3 player from a 26year-old man on Mott Street — and, in July, following a 30-year-old man into his building before stealing his keys, money and phone. metro/ca

Cop faces DUI charges

BROOKLYN. An off-duty New York City police officer was arrested Saturday in Carroll Gardens and charged with driving while intoxicated, according to police. A six-year veteran of the police force, Sgt. Diego Vivar, 34, was pulled over after he allegedly ran a red light at Garnet and Court streets at about 2 a.m. Saturday. He was suspended for 30 days without pay. • METRO/CB

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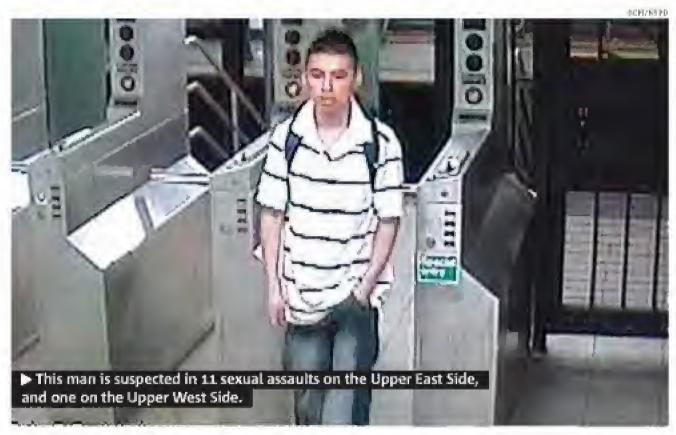
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Police: Puny perv attacks 12th victim

◆ Short man targeting women on Upper East and West sides ◆ Latest woman walking through Central Park

The diminutive pervert targeting young women on the Upper East Side has struck again, according to police, attacking his 12th female victim over the weekend and sending her to the hospital.

And this time, the 4-foot-11-inch man, who only weighs about 120 pounds — and who usually sticks to the Upper East Side — is moving west.

Police said the suspect

You can help

Anyone with any information is asked to call the NYPD at 1-800-577-TIPS (8477); go online at www.nypdcrimestoppers .com or text tips to 274637 (CRIMES) then enter TIP577.

trailed a 28-year-old woman as she walked through Central Park at 10 p.m. Friday, just east of West Drive at 66th Street and near the former Tavern on the Green site. After approaching her from behind and initiating a conversation, the man then sexually assaulted her, police said.

The woman was able to punch and kick him away before fleeing. She was treated at a nearby hospital and released.



Massive toll hike looms across the Hudson River

It may soon be much more expensive for those in New Jersey to get into the city, if the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey gets its way.

The bistate authority is planning massive fare and toll hikes, sometimes more than 50 percent increases, on the PATH, the Lincoln and Holland tunnels, the George Washington Bridge and other bridges, according to a doomsday plan unveiled Friday.

And the most pain will be felt by drivers who pay cash: Cash tolls getting into the city could go as high as \$15.

If the proposal is approved, one of the proposed hikes, a \$4 increase for E-ZPass customers, could go into effect as early



as September.

The fare hike would be the Port Authority's first increase since 2008. According to the proposal,

Planned hikes

- \$4 increase for E-ZPass drivers during peak hours: Currently \$8, will go up to \$12.
- \$7 increase for drivers who pay cash: Currently \$8, will go up to \$15.
- \$1 increase on a single-fare PATH ticket:
 Currently \$1.75, would be raised to \$2.75 a ride.
 \$35 increase for a monthly unlimited PATH card:
- unlimited PATH card: Currently \$54 a month, would raise to \$89, a 65 percent increase.

the bridge and tunnel tolls would again be raised in 2014 by an additional \$2.

CARLY BALDWIN

Former NY gov. dies

NEW YORK. Hugh Carey, the two-term New York governor who helped New York City avert bankruptcy during the 1975 fiscal crisis by imposing financial controls, died yesterday at

imposing financial controls, died yesterday at his home in Shelter Island. He was 92. Carey, a Democrat, also led the "I Love New York" campaign. BLOOMBERG

Stalking Cotillard?

was arrested by the FBI on Thursday for sending threatening messages to Oscar-winning actress Marion Cotillard. "After it happens, I'll feel no regret whatsoever ... that's apparently how it feels to be a killer, to be a murderer," Terri Yuan allegedly e-mailed. REUTERS

Concrete tests fake

NEW YORK. Six people were indicted Thursday for allegedly faking results of concrete tests at construction sites throughout the city, including Yankee Stadium, the Intrepid Sea, Air and Space Museum and the Fulton Street subway station, according to city prosecutors. • METRO/CB







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If you suffer from any degree of knee pain I invite you to regain control of your life by visiting NY Rehab, a state of the art medical facility.

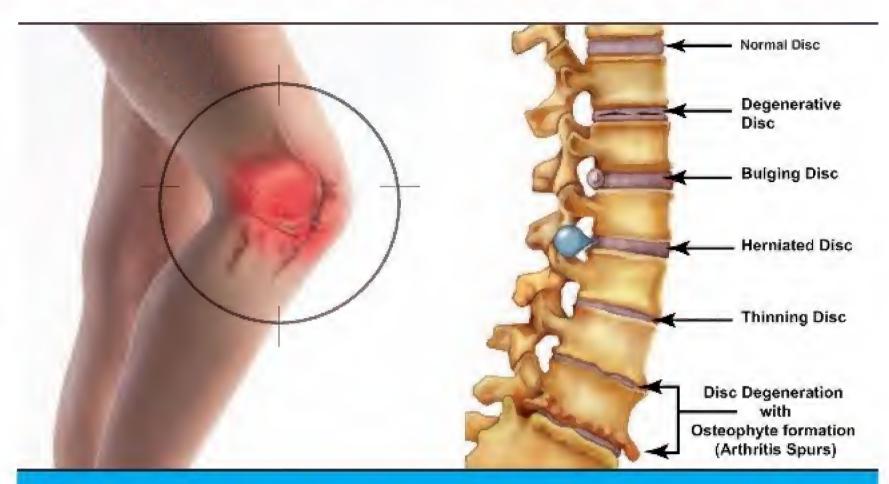
What causes osteoarthritis?

The cause of osteoarthritis is unknown. Factors that might cause it include the following:

- · Being overweight
- · Getting Older (wear and tear)
- · Joint Injury
- Joints that are not properly formed (alignment/imbalance problems)
- A genetic defect in the joint cartilage
- Stresses on the joints from certain activities including sports, work and leisure activities

What else is available to treat knee pain?

After careful study and several trials the FDA cleared a new treatment aimed at helping those with knee pain. This new treatment is a high tech answer for all those who think that surgery, dietary supplements and prescription medications are the only option to eliminate knee pain.



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Will my insurance cover this treatment?

YES, most major insurances and Medicare will pay for some if not all of our services.

Who is a good candidate for this treatment?

Do you wake up with knee pain?

Does your knee pain keep you from certain activities?

Have you been told you need a knee replacement?

Are you active and sometime suffer from sore knees?

Do you take medications for knee pain?

Do you have difficulty going up and down stairs due to knee pain?

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1-in-3 odds that AA rating falls

S&P managing director says US could see further credit downgrade ('Stabilization' needed to recover

Standard & Poor's managing director John Chambers said yesterday there is a one in three chance of a further U.S. credit rating downgrade over the next six months to two years.

"We have a negative outlook ... from six months to 24 months," he said on

Quoted

"In a word, volatility."

CITIGROUP STRATEGIST JAMIE SEARL, ON WHAT INVESTORS CAN EXPECT IN THE WEEKS AHEAD

ABC's "This Week."

"And if the fiscal position of the United States deteriorates further, or if the political gridlock becomes more entrenched, then that could lead to a downgrade. The outlook indicates at least a one in three chance of a downgrade over that period."

Chambers said that it would take some time for the United States to recover its AAA rating.

"It would take a stabilization of the debt as a share of the economy and eventual decline. And it would take, I think, more ability to reach consensus in Washington than what we're observing now," he said, REUTERS



Perry offers prayer for America

Texas Gov. Rick Perry, expected to enter the Republican race for the White House within weeks, offered a prayer for America at a controversial religious rally that put the spotlight on his Christian faith. Perry, who has made his religious beliefs a big part of his public image, urged an enthusiastic crowd at the seven-hour gathering to pray for President Barack Obama and other U.S. leaders. "Father, our heart breaks for America," said Perry. REUTERS

Geithner staying

Treasury **Secretary** Timothy Geithner, who had



considered stepping down after the government borrowing limit was raised,

will remain at his post at President Barack Obama's request, the administration said yesterday.

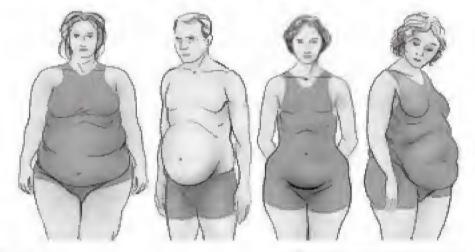
"The president asked Secretary Geithner to stay on at Treasury and welcomes his decision," White House spokesman Jay Carney said in a statement.

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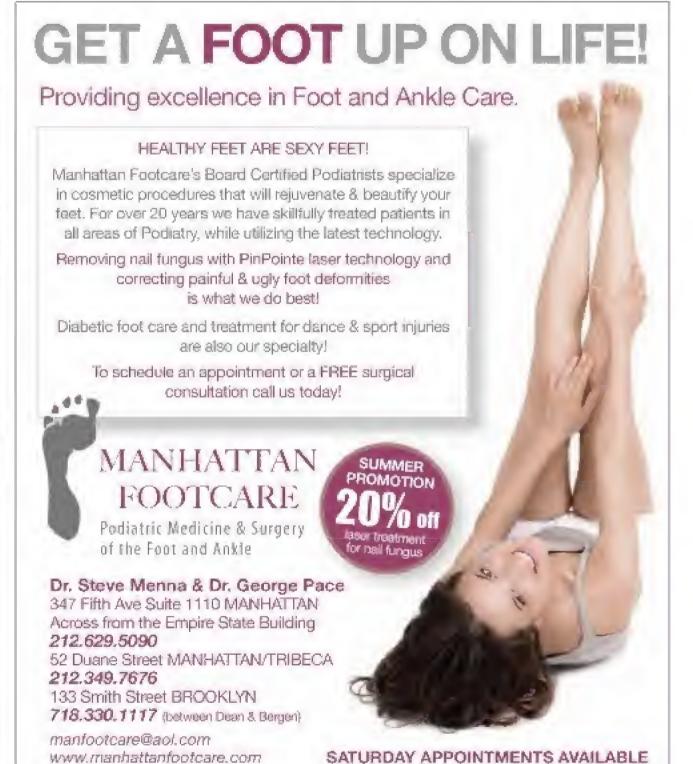
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45K Verizon workers go on strike

Almost half the workers in Verizon Communications wireline telecommunications business went on strike yesterday as negotiations for a new labor contract failed.

The strike involves 45,000 workers. It's the first walk-out that Verizon, one of the two big U.S. telephone network operators, has faced since 2000 when about 80,000 workers went on strike for about three weeks.

Verizon and two unions — The Communications Workers of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - had been in talks since late June but were still far

Filling in

Verizon said late Saturday night that it had trained tens of thousands of employees, from retirees to management, to fill the role of the workers who are now on strike.

apart when their contract expired Saturday night.

The workers who went on strike are technicians and customer-support employees in the wireline unit, which provides traditional phone services to homes and businesses in the Northeast as well as highspeed Internet and FiOS television service. REUTERS



Worst London riots in years

LONDON. London braced yesterday for more violence after some of the worst riots in the British capital for years which politicians and police blamed on criminal thugs but residents attributed to local tensions and anger over hardship.

Rioters throwing petrol bombs rampaged overnight through the deprived district of Tottenham in north London, setting police patrol cars, buildings and a double-decker bus on fire.

"There are Twitter conversations that people are being asked to meet again down in Tottenham, so we are all concerned — but clearly we will be much better prepared this evening," Richard Barnes, London's Deputy Mayor, told BBC TV. REUTERS

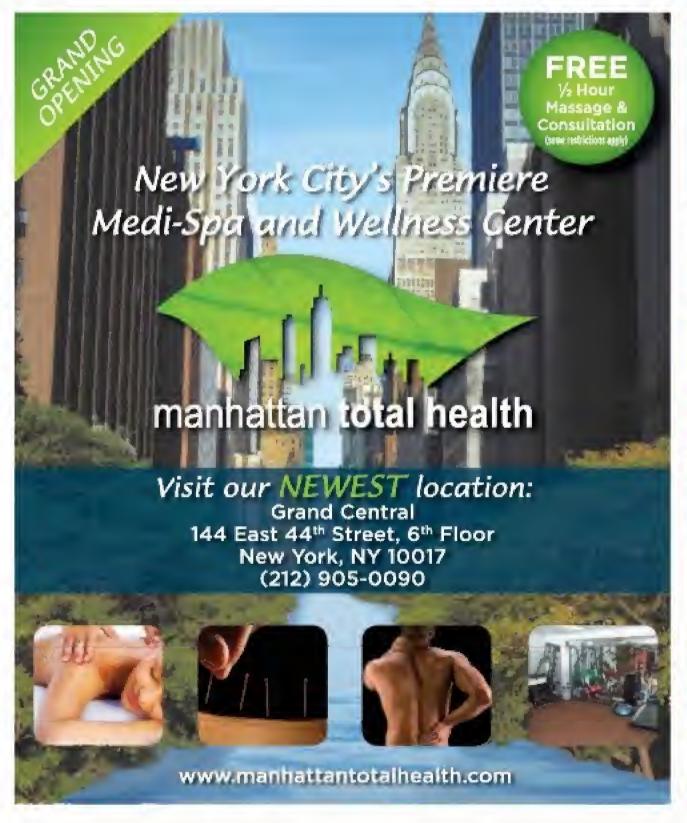
Inquiry into airstrike deaths

09

KABUL, Afghan President Hamid Karzai ordered an investigation yesterday into a NATO air strike that killed eight civilians, adding more fuel to an already contentious issue between Kabul and foreign forces. Violence is at its worst in Afghanistan since U.S.-backed Afghan forces toppled the Taliban government in late 2001. While there have been high levels of foreign troop deaths, Afghan civilians have borne the brunt of the conflict. REUTERS



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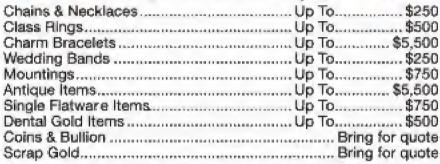
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The condition and rarity of an item determines its price. If an item is in excellent condition and very rare it might be worth the up to price, or even more. However, if an item is in poor condition, the value will be lower. For example, a 1927 S Quarter could be worth \$7,000 in new condition or less than \$20 in poor condition. The up to price reflects items of exceptional quality and rarity. Although it is unlikely you will have these items due to their extreme rarity, feel free to bring whatever items you may have and we will evaluate them free of charge.

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Faulty gene linked to ovarian cancer

Testing for RAD51D gene should be available in a few years Development of new drugs could quicken

Women who carry a faulty copy of a gene called RAD51D have an almost one-in-11 chance of developing ovarian cancer, scientists said yesterday in a finding they called the most significant ovarian cancer gene discovery for more than 10 years.

Tests to identify those at the highest risk are expected to be available within a few years, according to Cancer Research U.K. This may lead some women to decide to have their ovaries removed in order to beat the disease.

The finding should also speed the search for new drugs.

Laboratory experiments

Estimated number of women worldwide that are diagnosed with ovarian cancer each year

already suggest that cells with faulty RAD51D are sensitive to PARP inhibitors — a new class of drugs designed to target cancers caused by faults in two known breast and ovarian cancer genes, BR-CA1 and BRCA2.

Several large drugmakers, including Abbott, Merck, Pfizer, Sanofi-Aventis and AstraZeneca, are developing PARP inhibitors, which work by blocking DNA repair mechanisms in cancer cells, stalling the cell cycle and leading to cell death.

Data released in May showed that one of these. AstraZeneca's olaparib, was able to slow the progression of ovarian cancer in a midstage clinical trial.

For the latest study, researchers from Britain's Iustitute of Cancer Research compared the DNA of women from 911 families with ovarian and breast cancer to DNA from a control group of more than 10,000 people from the general population.

REUTERS



ABC plans to divorce 'Housewives'

ABC yesterday said it is ending "Desperate Housewives" when the current, eighth season wraps up in 2012, sending the popular ladies of Wisteria Lane packing into TV history. ABC made the announcement to television critics, calling it an "iconic show" for the network. The show was hugely popular after it first began airing in 2004, winning numerous awards and gaining audiences overseas. But as with all TV shows, its popularity has waned as the show has aged. REUTERS

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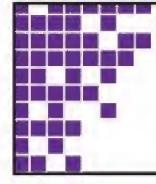
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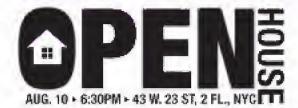
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HEWORID

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip **E** @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

She's having a ball

usan Sarandon's love of all things pingpong is well-documented (she's an investor at SPiN, a pingpong parlor located in New York's Flatiron district). But she still claims she's an average player and not cutthroat at all — a fact that really hit home during a recent trip to China.

"Not at all," she said when asked if she were a competitive player. "I just played recently in China, and it was the most traumatizing thing. First of all, I had no idea what was going on. Second of all, I'm not competitive. I'm shy."

Is it pingpong that keeps the svelte 64-yearold in such great shape? Maybe! "It's really good exercise, it's great for the brain, it relieves stress," she told Metro on Friday while at an event with Grey Goose and SPiN in East Hampton. "They've been doing tests on Alzheimer's and really recommend |that patients practice to work



Sarandon showed off her skills on Friday while in East Hampton.

www.metr@.us **MORE GOSSIP**

WWW.METRO.US/WORD DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

on right brain/left brain coordination."

Now if only we citydwellers had enough room for a pingpong table ...

> Additional reporting by Tina Chadha

The J. Lo divorce is getting ugly

The "amicable" part of Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony's split is apparently done, as the inevitable custody battle has reportedly gotten under way with Lopez looking for sole custody of their twins. according to Us Weekly. "They are always with their mom. Jennifer lights up around her kids. She's incredible, balancing work and being a good mom," a source says.

The youth shall inherit the **Twitter**

Well, here's something that is going to make you feel old: The top actresses ranked by their Klout score (a measure of how much online in-



have) are Demi Lovato, 5elena Gomez, Ariana Grande, Miley Cyrus and Bella Thorne. As the Huffington Post points out, the average age of these tweeters is a ripe 17. The HuffPo then had Ad.ly, a company that pays celebrities to tweet on behalf of brands, compile a second list of the most influential. tweeters when it comes to people buying what they mention. The winner? Lindsay Lohan.

Lohan, an actress who is less successful than Tara Reid in landing a movie gig. And there you have it: The world really is a vampire.

reportedly planning to

London home into a

rehab center and the

turn her \$4 million north

offices of the Amy Wine-

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to - in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Chris Colfer is: addressing his problems, Seth MacFarlane is looking on the bright side, Eva Longoria is celebrating the little things and Katy Perry is having a treat.

▶ Øchriscolfer Just realized I may have more framed pictures of pets than

► **(A)** SethMacFarlane Somehow a double-A credit rating seems more American anyway.

socially acceptable...

► (A) EvaLongoria Today was the first time i parked in my reserved parking spot on Universal lot in 8 years!

▶ Økatyperry u know it's gonna bia good show when someone brings u rainbow colored rice



Talking points

Clooney's wrestling lady

George Clooney is reportedly rebounding from Elisabetta Canalis with

ex-wrestler Stacy Keibler, according to Us Weekly. "It's more than just a fling," a source says of the pair, who have known each other for about four years. "They're basically exclusive at this point. They like each other's sense of humor. Obviously they're both physically at-



tracted to one another." But the new couple apparently plans to keep things private when it comes to their relationship: "I don't see her hitting any of the red carpets with him," the source adds.

Jolie is 'bored' with England

Angelina Jolie is reportedly so bored in England while Brad Pitt films "World War Z" that she's considering packing up the kids and heading back to the U.S. before he's finished, according to Us Weekly. "She's not pleased being at

home while he's on set," the source says. "These are the longest hours he's spent on a set in a while, so it's just her and the kids with not much to do." While Jolie has been giving life in London a go, including taking son Maddox and her older children to see "Wicked" over the weekend for his birthday, it's unclear how much longer she'll be interested in sticking around.

Winehouse home to be rehab center

Amy Winehouse's family is

house Foundation, according to the Sun. "They don't want to rent it out, and if they sold it they think it could attract the wrong kind of buyer as it was where Amy passed away," a source says. "Everyone is united in making it a success — the label, her family, friends and management. [Her father] Mitch has big plans and needs a nice environment where employees will be able to carry out their work properly."

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SPY A CELEB IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD? SNAP SOME PICS AT A GREAT SHOW LAST NIGHT? SEND YOUR SEEN ON THE SCENE PHOTOS TO THEWORD@METRO.US AND WE'LL PRINT THE BEST







A 'Glee'ful weekend

1: Lea Michele strutted her stuff on the red carpet at the premiere of "Glee: The 3D Concert Movie" on Saturday in Westwood, Calif.

2: Kelly Preston, husband John Travolta and Priscilla Presley attended the Church of Scientology Celebrity Centre's 42nd Anniversary Gala Saturday in Hollywood. Other notable Scientologists Jenna Elfman, Jason Lee and Juliette Lewis also. attended.

3: Nicki Minaj bit down on a tasty snack during a taping of ABC's "Good Morning America" on Friday. She later caused a stir when she had a

"wardrobe malfunction" while

4: Dakota Fanning sported a new, short do while on the set of her new film "Now Is Good" on Friday in London.

5: Nick Cannon gave the most uninspired point ever while at the set of Fuse Studios on Friday in New York. His new twins must be wearing him out!

6: Speaking of Minaj, a "Mini-Britney" and "Mini-

Minaj" hit the Beach Bar at Bally's Wild West Casino on Saturday in Atlantic City. No. mini-nip slip was reported.

7: Cee to Green channeled his inner Koopa turtle on Saturday during Day 2 of Lollapalooza 2011 in Chicago.

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'Mad Men,' 'Modern Family,' big winners at the TCA Awards

▶ Live from TCA press tour: Critics honor the best
 ▶ 'Friday Night Lights' and Oprah get fond farewells

The Television Critics Association took time off from interviewing TV talent to honor them on Saturday night at the 27th annual TCA Awards, a ceremony recognizing achievement in the medium. At the Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, Calif., "Friday Night Lights" took the night's top honor, named program of the year in its final season. The football drama had previously been recognized by the TCA as the outstanding new pro-

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Thrones" won outstanding new program this season.

as the outstanding new program of 2006. "Game of egories; the series was

named best drama for a third year, while Jon Hamm took home the award for individual achievement in drama. "Modern Family" also dominated its category, earning its second straight award for best comedy, while star Ty Burrell was honored for individual achievement in comedy an award he shared with "Parks and Recreation" star Nick Offerman, who also served as host of the TCA Awards ceremony.

New this year was the



award for outstanding achievement in reality programming, which went to "The Amazing Race."

Oprah Winfrey accepted the career achievement award via a taped speech, thanking TCA members for their honest criticism. Carl Reiner accepted the TCA Heritage Award, honoring programs that have a lasting impact on popular culture, on behalf of "The Dick Van Dyke Show."



Mr. Xtreme is featured in "Superheroes."

'Superheroes'

FILM. Like "Kick-Ass" come to life, real caped crusaders don masks and fight evil on city streets in this fascinating doc examining a zealous subculture aiming to help people — and dress in Spandex.

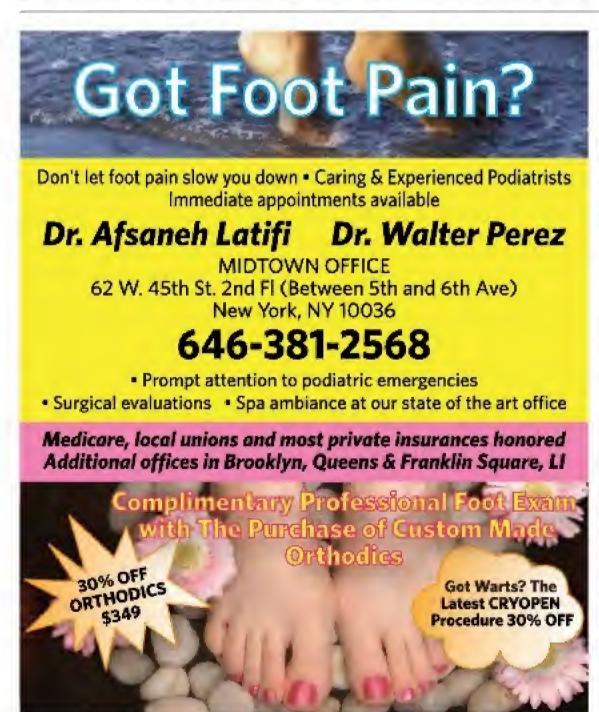
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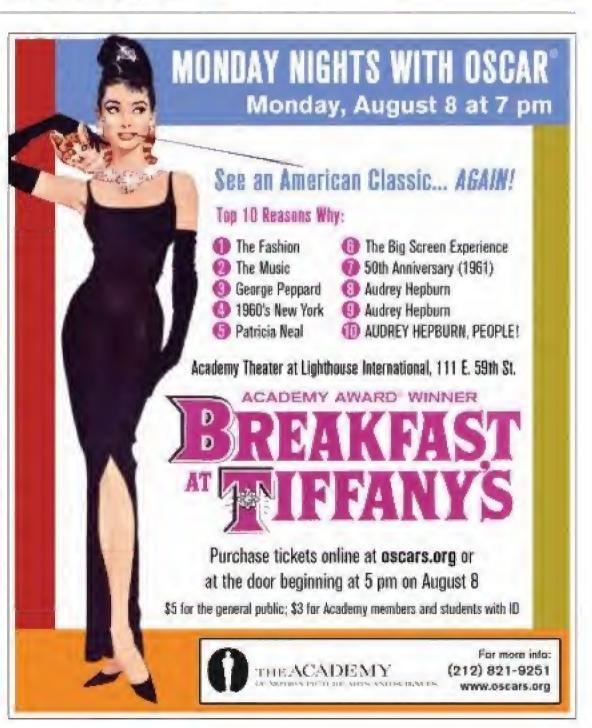
'Bachelor Pad'

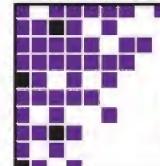
REALITY. Eighteen former contestants from the "Bachelor" franchise are given the chance to make terrible relationship mistakes all over again when they move back into the mansion.

Season premiere, 8 p.m.,

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Box office

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'Apes' prequel conquers the box office

Sci-fi thriller "Rise of the Planet of the Apes" reigned at the weekend box office with \$54 million in ticket sales at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to studio estimates released yesterday.

Surprise summer bit "The Smurfs" finished second with \$21 million domestically over three days, followed by sci-fi Western "Cowboys & Aliens" with \$15.7 million.

New body-switching comedy "The Change-Up" finished fourth with \$13.5 million, at the low end of forecasts. The film, starring Jason Bateman and Ryan Reynolds, was widely panned for its formulaic plot and raunchy humor.

"Rise of the Planet of the Apes" was released by 20th Century Fox, a unit of News Corp. Starring James Franco, Freida Pinto and Andy Serkis, the film is set in modern-day San Francisco at a medical research facility that tests Alzheimer's medications on

"The Change-Up" and "Cowboys & Aliens" were distributed by Universal Studios. Columbia Pictures released "The Smurfs." REUTERS/METRO



superhero Just four episodes in, Azita Ghanizada is already garnering a fan base on the new 'super abilities' show 'Alphas' O Catch her tonight with her idol, Lindsay Wagner

Afghan-American actress Azita Ghanizada has been a TV lover all her life — and in fact says it's how she learned English. So the success of her new Syfy series, "Alphas," has been especially rewarding for her. In the series. Ghanizada plays Rachel, a member of a team of individuals with special abilities. Metro caught up with Ghanizada to talk about what's in store for her character and what it was like working with one of her own heroes.

WILHELMINA

Men & Women

Eyebrow / Chin / Upper Lip \$ 2

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\$ 60 UnderArms\$ 40

You're filming the finale now. What can you tell us about it without spoiling too much?

What's happened since the start of the season is that you've gotten to know the characters, and the audience got to learn a little bit about the Alphas phenomenon - you know, not mutants, not superheroes, but humans with brain anomalies. You've got these people that are unique working for a government agency and doing what they think is right, but the stories com-

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Q&A: Meeting

In tonight's episode, you

her own hero

get to work with guest-star Lindsay Wagner.

"Alphas" airs Monday night at 10 on Syfy.

I got to talk at length with her about what it was like to be a female TV star in the '70s on "The Bionic Woman" and breaking that ground, and she was just so cool. And then when we're shooting, I went to do my super-hearing, and she just smirked a little bit. She's like, "I used to be you." I was like, "Oh my God, right!" - I mean, way cooler. She was a badass. Rachel's growing into that. But what an iconic moment for me for someone who really shifted television for women in the '70s, and she sort of pointed at me and was like, "Rachel is sort of who I was." So that was a really big treat.

ing up [ask] who's on the side of right? I think that will come to a head in the finale, and I think you'll see the Alphas questioning what they're doing.

It's interesting how vulnerable your character is when

she's using her ability. Yeah, every ability has its downside, and that's why I think the fans have gotten really bananas over the show. I think it's because they're so human. They're not invincible. When she uses her sight, she's essentially deaf. When she uses her super-hearing, she's essentially blind. Monday night is a big episode for Rachel. It kind of showcases [my character] and what she's going through and how she's so easily affected by her abilities and everything affects her to an extreme degree.



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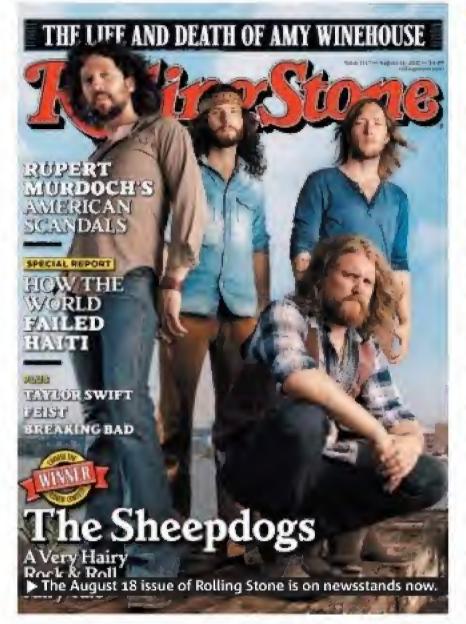
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It's a dog's life for Rolling Stone contest winners



Previously unsigned band out of Canada win record deal and cover story on legendary rock magazine Why The Sheepdogs are not rock-star divas

You may not have heard of them yet, but you will. The Sheepdogs — four burly, hirsute men Saskatchewan — are the winners of Rolling Stone magazine's first "Do You Wanna Be a Rock & Roll Star?" contest, making them the first unsigned band to ever land a cover story in the magazine. Also part of their prize: a recording contract with Atlantic Records. How's that for a rags-to-riches story?

"It's all still pretty surreal to us," bassist Ryan Gullen says. "It's like one of those things where you get your photo taken and they put it on the cover of a magazine for you, one of those fake photo booths, but it's real,"

Since their fan-voted victory, which came after a performance at Bonnaroo Music Festival in June, the bluesy rock group with a

What's in a name?

How did the band come up with the name?

"There's no real rhyme or reason," says Hanson. "People are like, 'Oh, you guys look like sheepdogs, you're all scruffy and hairy." (But) it has nothing to do with that. Just a coincidence."

'70s vibe has sped up to live life in the fast lane.

"I'm not really sure how much sleep I got last night because I can't remember when I went to bed," says drummer Sam Corbett. "Then we got up and we had to go to 'Jimmy Fallon' — we woke up like literally 10 minutes before we had to go down there."

The band came together in 2005, sharing a love for Kings of Leon. And now, despite the recent drama that forced the Kings to cancel their U.S. dates, The Sheepdogs are gearing up to tour Canada with them this fall.

"I really hope those guys pull together," says guitarist Leot Hanson. "We've been together for six years and we've had our ups and downs, but in the end you are brothers and you've gotta work through it. Let's just hope that they do that, because there's lots of people that'd be disappointed in Canada if they didn't tour."

Canada if they didn't tour."

And even though The

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Sheepdogs are on the brink of celebrity, Hanson promises they won't become divas.

"We always have been humble dudes and always will be," he says. "We don't have all green M&Ms or bulls—like that [on our rider]. It's all just like beer and towels and f—ing cheese and crackers: nothing fancy. We're not really rock stars. We don't consider ourselves to be and we won't fall into that kind of lifestyle."



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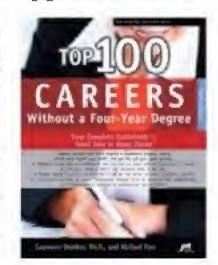


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A bachelor's degree opens numerous doors, but there will continue to be opportunities for those without one

A traditional four-year degree puts up some enticing numbers: According to statistics from the U.S. Department of Education, in 2008. young adults with bachelor's degrees were less likely to be unemployed than those with high school diplomas, while they earned 28 percent more than their peers with associate's degrees.



However, according to "Top 100 Careers Without a Four-Year Degree" co-author Laurence Shatkin who, it should be noted, pursued a Ph.D. — there are still stable fields for those with less formal education and training.

Health care

While he notes that a fouryear degree is still the preferred route for registered nurses, Shatkin identifies technicians, ultrasound medical office assistants and home health care aides as just a few of the positions that require less training and will be in demand. "It's not so much that they're new careers, but the workforce has expanded,"

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he says. "It's partly that the population is getting older, and partly that there's new technology and people who will be covered by that. In an attempt to reduce costs, there's been a shift in responsibilities to lower-paid workers."

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for workers at every education level in alternative energy fields. "Every Wal-Mart that gets built now has a green roof," points out Shatkin, who predicts more opportunities in solar and wind power, hybrid cars and energy auditing.

Skilled labor

While some jobs will continue to be outsourced, others, by design, will have to stay right here in the U.S. "There is always going to be a need for skilled workers such as plumbers, electricians and construction workers. You can't ship these careers overseas you need to have them here," says Shatkin.





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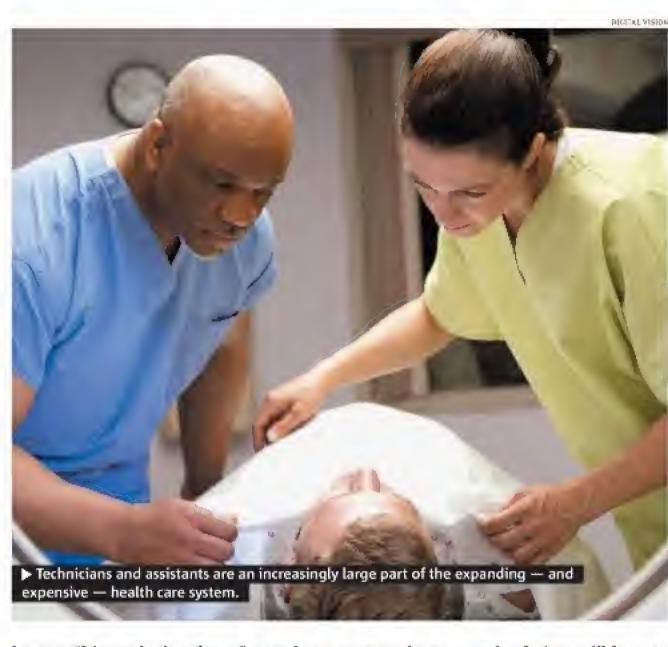
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Think before you hit send

O Don't let your thumbs get in the way of your promising career

Expert e-mail etiquette tips

In the age of automatic spell-check, it's tempting to thumb out double-time memos with no regard for the art of spelling. Still, career counselors warn, your lack of SMS manners could cost you. "People are losing the art of putting together a complete couple of sentences," says career coach Sue Thompson. "You need to consider to whom are you writing."

"It's all about building rapport," agrees Shirin Khamisa, founder of Careers By Design. If you receive snappish replies to your e-mails, then you



might, she suggests, keep your correspondence curt. "But if it's a person who has a more personal touch, then I would reciprocate," she adds. "Those niceties are very important in build-

Keep it clear

Don't get so lost in digital decorum that you never get to the point, Khamisa cautions.

"Keep those in the top of the e-mail so they don't get lost," she advises. "Put them in the subject line. Present things the way you'd want them presented to you."

ing relationships, even online—and especially online — because we need that glue to hold us together."

Older workers, Thompson notes, can be made uncomfortable by an overload of Web 3.0 abbreviations. "Baby boomers are going to expect a fairly concise, but formal e-mail," she says.

Above all, keep the golden manners rule in mind: "Just respect the person to whom you're writing," says Thompson. "That's what etiquette is."



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The kids are all right

▶ It's easy to complain about their MTV-era attention spans ▶ But despite popular opinion, there's evidence today's students are as engaged as ever

It's likely that 2011's batch of freshmen will be greeted by some professors who have a pretty low opinion of today's students.

The common view is that students are much less prepared for college today, that standards are far lower and that freshmen have a shorter attention span each year.

Sound familiar?

But, according to Brent Bell, a researcher at the University of New Hampshire, students shouldn't take their professor's condemnations too seriously, because: Professors have almost always felt this way, and it simply isn't true.

Bell recently authored "What Do You Expect From Millennials?" in the Journal of College Orientation and Transition, in which he takes this prevailing view head-on.

"My first year of teaching, I was shocked at how poorly my students were writing; but then I had the experience of finding my old papers from undergrad. I realized that I had improved dramatically over a period of time, but had remembered myself as a much better writer," he explains, "For teachers, it truly feels like the students are much less prepared. But I found that this sentiment was pretty consistent right back to the early 1900s."

Ultimately, after the initial typically rough first semester, Bell found that today's college students are doing about the same quality of work — and maybe even better — than their predecessors. "The best criticism of that is grade inflation - students aren't held to the same standards," he says. "But if you look at the SAT over the years, the scores have stayed pretty much the same - and that's with far more students taking the test."



The tough transition

Bell does remain concerned about the freshman transition. Dropout rates are highest during the first year of college.

"What I'm finding is that getting students to trust each other, build [a] community and have honest conversations with each other is what really adds to their educational experience," he explains. "The transition is much smoother for students who have an opportunity to do that."



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Last-minute ways to trim college costs

▶ It's probably settled in by now: Degrees don't come cheap ▶ How to save when every little bit helps

The average private-school tuition tops \$21,000, and many schools ask for more than \$40,000 annually, according to Department of Education figures that don't even include room and board, pizza, iPads, colorful bedding or spring break trips.

Here are some lastminute guerrilla techniques for lining up cash for class.

Start small: High-school seniors may not want to spend their first year commuting to the local community college, but when you show them the money, they may reconsider. That's what Brian Fricke and his wife Annette did when their two sons approached the college decision. "We sat them down and said, Between the two of you, you're going to save us \$60,000 by starting at community college. Down the road, we'll be in a better position to help you out with a down payment on a house or funding a business or whatever."

Deconstruct the aid offer: Look at the package your child was offered. Some of it may be in the form of subsidized loans, some of it unsubsidized loans, some of it pricier private loans and some of it grants and workstudy. Take the grants and think carefully about whether the loans are your best deal; you are allowed to



Expert tip

Hit up the extended family.

Is grandma suffering with bank CDs that are paying 1. percent or less in interest while you shell out 7.9 percent for PLUS (parent loan for undergraduate student) loans? Ahem, you might be able to work out a private loan deal. Just make sure you can really keep up the payments. If grandparents actually want to help pay for college, they can send their checks directly to the school and not have it count against the annual gift-tax exclusion.

pick and choose what you want out of the package. If your family's financial situation has changed for the worse, you can go back to the financial aid office and ask for more money.

Pay as you go for extras: The aid package is usually designed to cover all of the costs of a year, including transportation, a computer, food and the like. Don't borrow for all of those addons, says Howard Freedman, a private financial-aid adviser in Stoughton, Mass. You can probably pay for them out of current income or short-term borrowing on a credit card. REUTERS

Borrow elsewhere

Private college loans (and even some unsubsidized federal loans) aren't such a great deal, and you may have a cheaper and better source of money. Brian Martin, a wealth manager, tells his clients to consider borrowing from cash-value life-insurance policies, home equity lines or even a 401(k). Rates can be far lower than they are for private college loans.
When you borrow from your own 401(k), you are really paying that interest back to yourself. The interest on a home equity line of credit can be tax-deductible.

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Letters

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Heed a call to disarm

Aug. 9 marks the commemoration of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Sixty-six years is enough! Keeping such weapons on high alert creates unacceptable risks. In this time of budget crisis, it is unthinkable that we continue to find funding for these weapons while cutting essential programs that support our nation. Desmond Tutu wrote: "Nuclear arms are wicked regardless of who possesses them. So long as these weapons exist, the threat of their use either by acci-

dent or through an act of sheer madness will remain." Eliminating all nuclear weapons is the best way to secure a safe and healthy future MICHEL H NAZAIRE, BROOKLYN

Two's company, three's a crowd

Our founding fathers were against declaring political parties and receiving pay for public service. We made short work of such idealism. But we did agree on one thing concerning political parties: of all the options, the two-party system was the most efficient. The "Tea

Party" label infers that it is a legitimate political party, which it is not. I suggest we rename the Tea Party the "Tea Baggers" since they seem to come to life in hot water. It's all in semantics. KEN BONACCI, VIA E-MAIL

RE: Goodbye & good riddance

I am a believer of small government, which is why I think that disqualifies me as a Democrat; I identify as an independent. The problem with Tea Partiers is that they do not believe in small government. They pick and choose when

they want government to be small and when they want to control the lives and rights of the American people. For example: a woman and her vagina. ALICIA PEREZ, VIA E-MAIL

A matter of priorities

A polar bear in Norway kills one British tourist and badly mauls four others; It is promptly killed. After the attack in an inaccessible area of the Arctic circle, a helicopter was sent immediately to reach the victims. Two weeks ago, one man murdered 77 people in Oslo, and he might get 21 years in prison. That's less than four months for each life that he took. It's a pity that the attacker in Oslo wasn't a polar bear! PAUL PHELAN, VIA E-MAIL

Horoscope

Ω Leo July 23-Aug. 22. You and someone you've known for guite a while might start looking at one another in a romantic light; follow through on your yearnings only if both of you are single and available. W Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22. There's a chance you might spot something that could improve the lot of a close personal friend. Do what you can to make it happen yourself.

Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23. You might finally get a chance to voice all the nice things you've wanted to say to an attractive certain someone. You'll know when it is the right moment. M. Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22. Conditions are likely to open up in an area that concerns your work, career or reputation. Capitalize on any circumstance or situation that could enhance your best assets.

₹ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21. Conduct yourself in ways that could earn you the admiration and respect of others, socially as well as businesswise. You can easily do so by letting the real you emerge.

M Capricom Dec. 22-Jan. 19. An advantageous change might take place that could prove to be materially beneficial for you. It is something you've thought about, but were fear-

ful to bring about on your own. Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 19. A successful agreement can be established if you make it just as advantageous for the other guy or gal as it would be for you.

H Pisces Feb. 20-March 20. When it comes to work-related situations, don't focus too much on merely what's in it for you. If your efforts show you are concerned for others as well, you'll be successful.

The Aries March 21-April 19. Lady Luck will help keep you out of debt if you respond to her urgings to watch your pennies. Don't drop your shekels on something that could get quickly get exorbitant.

¥ Taurus April 20-May 20. It will be the very people you've helped out in the past who will come to your Rhandal aid if and when you need it. They've been looking for a way to repay your past kindness.

II Gemini May 21-June 20. No one knows better than you that you get back exactly what you have dished out. Think of life as a favorable exchange, and make every effort to serve up a heaping plate of love.

Gancer June 21-July 22. A hobby in which you're involved can be developed into a moneymaking endeavor if you begin to think of it in fiscal terms. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

3

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- 55 Dead heats 56 Omigosh! 59 Play bumper-cars

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6

Solution to weekend's crossword



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Looking for a Prince

Giants first-round pick injured Amukamara out 8-10 weeks with broken foot, surgery needed • Adds to ever growing short-handed roster

As quickly as the Prince was given to the Giants, he was taken away even faster.

Rookie cornerback Prince Amukamara was the last of the first-round picks to sign his deal and as long his holdout lasted, the former Nebraska star's maiden campaign was taken away just as quickly. Amukamara injured his left foot in Saturday's practice just one play into his first training camp. He suffered a fracture of the fifth metatarsal bone and will need to undergo surgery to have a screw inserted. There is no timetable for his return.

Head coach Tom Coughlin said he was "shocked" when first told of the severity of Amukamara's injury and added he doesn't believe it had anything to do with Amukamara's lengthy absence.

"I have no idea how the injury happened]," Coughlin said, adding the Giants have some experience dealing with foot injuries. "It's shocking and it's most difficult but we've done this before."

Tackle Will Beatty suffered a foot fracture last season and missed 10 weeks.

'Tight' spot

Ben Patrick, who signed with the Giants last week, announced his retirement days later. Coupled with the departure of Kevin Boss, that leaves few options at tight end:

Travis Beckum

Thought of as more of a receiver than blocker, and in just his second season.

Bear Pascoe

He can block, but he played mostly fullback last year. He might need to move to TE.

Amukamara said it initially didn't feel serious. He participated in another play, until his foot gave out and he could barely stand.

"I was in press coverage and the receiver just stopped and I stopped with him, and when I just came out of the cut knew something was wrong]," Amukamara said. "It was just one of those random injuries. I'm really down on myself. I feel like I let the team down and myself down."





Dealing with distraction



What the Giants have lacked in free agency sizzle, they certainly haven't lacked in drama.

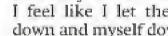
Whether it's the shocking cuts of beloved veterans, the Ahmad Bradshaw negotiations, the defection of Kevin Boss, the Osi Umenyiora saga, or now the loss of first pick Prince Amukamara, the stories are never-ending.

But as usual, head

coach Tom Coughlin isn't allowing his team to feel pity. He simply shrugs and tells his team to do a better job of adapting.

"We're always going to juggle, [because] we have other issues here and we've got issues there," Coughlin said. "But we still have to

keep some kind of balance so we can go ahead continue to practice like We Want." @ METRO/TW



Leonhard is back healthy after breaking his leg in practice before Week 13 last season.

Long road back for Leonhard is finally nearing conclusion

It's been a long, frustrating recovery for Jets safety Jim Leonhard, who is just now beginning to get a sniff of the field following the season-ending leg

injury he suffered

last December. For Leonhard, it was the Grinch who stole his NFL season. The loss of the veteran, called by head coach Rex Ryan "the quarterback of our secondary," was a big blow to

the defense.

Leonhard has gone from struggling to get himself to his seat in front of his locker to now standing on

the sidelines and following the defense through the opening days of training camp. The

team's medical staff is still keeping his participation low key.

Leonhard's rehab was grueling, but the staff was

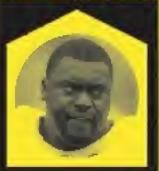
52 Tackles for Leonhard in 2010. He was third on the team despite missing the last five games of the season.

surprised how quickly he recovered.

"I tried to get in there as consistently as possible," Leonhard said about his rehab. "If I could get in there every day, I got in there every day." O Kristian Dyer



Good day, bad day



Good day The Patriots have signed former Jets DE Shaun Ellis.

The hulking lineman was offered a one-year contract by the Jets at the veteran minimum, but chose to sign a oneyear deal with the Jets' top rival.

Ellis has played 11 seasons in the NFL, all with the Jets.



Bad day Rex Ryan wasn't exactly enthusiastic to hear the news of

Shaun Ellis' signing. "The fact that he chose them ... there's no way I'm going to wish him well," Ryan said. "There's no

chance of that." Ryan was, however, quick to say he looked forward to facing him.

Same old story: Reyes, Murphy newest Mets added to injury list



The quest to get over .500 was overshadowed by an unwelcome, but familiar, visitor: injuries.

Jose Reyes and Daniel Murphy left Sunday's 6-5 loss to the Braves with leg injuries that will almost certainly keep them out of the lineup for today's start of a four-game series against San Diego, if not longer.

General Manager Sandy Alderson told reporters in an impromptu press conference outside the Mets clubhouse that Reyes suffered "a mild pull of his left hamstring," while Murphy's knee "was very definitely involved," on a play in the



"When you go out there and listen to what he had to say, he seemed to think he was hurt pretty severely."

TERRY COLLINS, METS MANAGER ON MURPHY'S INJURY

top of the seventh in which Atlanta's Jose Constanza spiked the Mets' infielder at base. Replays second showed that Murphy's knee buckled and he had to be helped off the field.

Murphy underwent an Xray at Citi Field "that was negative for any fractures," according to Alderson. Murphy, like Reyes, was sent to the Hospital for Special Surgery for an MRI. Neither player was available for comment after the game.

"I was sick to my stomach for Murph," Collins said.

The losses of Reyes and Murphy complete a fourday stretch in which the Mets learned Johan Santana and Ike Davis won't be in uniform anytime soon.

O DENIS GORMAN



Posada hits the bench

DH Jorge Posada wasn't in the lineup last night against the Red Sox and will reportedly share DH duties — hitting only against lefties — if he's in the lineup at all. Last night's game ended too late for press.



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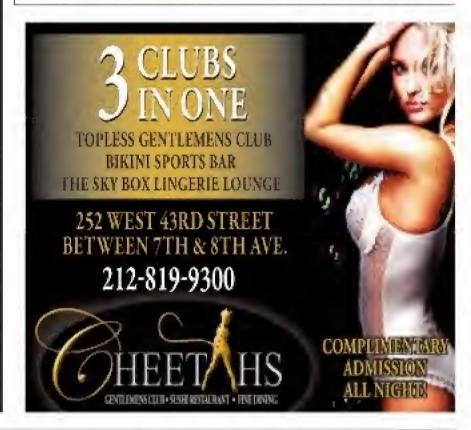
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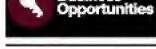


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